AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A capsule preparation, which comprises a capsule shell and contained inside the capsule shell a medicine unstable to moisture, wherein the capsule shell is stable in a low moisture state and has pH-independent disintegration properties, and provided that the capsule shell excludes hard gelatin and/or ~~a cellulose derivative~~ hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose as a main component of the capsule shell.

2. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, which is stable in a low moisture state which is less or equal to relative humidity of about 35%.

3. (Withdrawn) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, wherein the main component of the capsule shell is a gelatin containing polyethylene glycol.

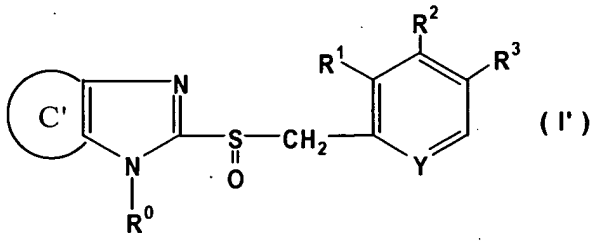
4. (Previously Presented) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, wherein the main component of the capsule shell is a water-soluble polysaccharide.

5. (Previously Presented) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, wherein the main component of the capsule shell is pullulan.

6. (Withdrawn) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, which combines a capsule shell comprising gelatin containing polyethylene glycol as the main component and a capsule shell comprising pullulan as the main component.

7. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, wherein the medicine unstable to moisture is a proton pump inhibitor (PPI).

8. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 7, wherein the PPI is an imidazole type compound represented by the formula (I'):



(I')

wherein the ring C' is an optionally substituted benzene ring or an optionally substituted aromatic mono-heterocyclic ring, R^0 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted aralkyl group, an acyl group or an acyloxy group, each of R^1, R^2 and R^3 which may be the same or different, and is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted alkyl group, an optionally substituted alkoxyl group, or an optionally substituted amino group, and Y is a nitrogen atom or CH, or an optically active isomer thereof or a salt thereof.

9. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 8, wherein C' is an optionally substituted benzene ring.

10. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 7, wherein the PPI is lansoprazole, omeprazole, rabeprazole, pantoprazole, tenatoprazole, or an optically active isomer thereof or a salt thereof.

11. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 7, wherein the PPI is lansoprazole.

12. (Previously Presented) The capsule preparation according to claim 7, wherein the PPI is the R-isomer of lansoprazole.

13. (Withdrawn) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, wherein the medicine unstable to moisture is a prodrug of PPI.

14. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, wherein the content in the capsule is a powdered medicine.

15. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 1, wherein the content in the capsule is fine granules optionally coated, granules optionally coated and/or tablets optionally coated.

16. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 15, which contains at least two solid preparations selected from fine granules, granules and tablets in combination.

17. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 16, wherein the combined solid preparations have different medicine release properties.

18. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 16, wherein at least one of the combined solid preparations has a coating layer.

19. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 18, wherein the coating layer is an enteric coating layer.

20. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 18, wherein the coating layer contains a controlled-release coating layer.

21. (Currently Amended) The capsule preparation according to claim 20, wherein the controlled-release coating layer is a coating layer soluble within a range of pH 6.0 to pH 7.5.

22. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 21, wherein the controlled-release coating layer is a diffusion-control type controlled-release film.

23. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 21, wherein the controlled-release coating layer is a time release type controlled-release coating film.

24. (Original) The capsule preparation according to claim 16, which contains fine granules, granules or tablets having an enteric coating layer in combination with fine granules, granules or tablets having a controlled-release coating layer.